

To: Tingley, Kevin[Tingley.Kevin@epa.gov]
From: Bethel, Heidi
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 6:46:06 PM
Subject: RE: Need POC for Animas River Questions: FW: Animas River

Hey Kevin,

Will the response be sent through EOC? I don't think Ken wants to send the response himself. He did want the e-mail address where questions could be sent so he has that now.

Thanks,

Heidi

From: Tingley, Kevin **On Behalf Of** EOC Water
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 2:44 PM
To: Bethel, Heidi; Tingley, Kevin; Greene, Ashley
Cc: Nandi, Romell; Johnson, Tara; Conerly, Octavia; Klasen, Matthew; Orvin, Chris; Ruf, Christine; Penman, Crystal; Kopocis, Ken
Subject: Re: Need POC for Animas River Questions: FW: Animas River

Yes, this is the right address!

Here's my draft response. I don't have much time to put it in the proper format, but the info is good:

--

Dear Nina Brown,

Thank you for your suggestion to use microbes to take toxins out of the water, and your link to the Youtube video showing how it worked during the Deepwater Horizon response.

The primary pollutants of concern for the mine waste spill in the Animas River are metals. Metals would not be removed effectively using microbes (which are more effective in treating organic waste including oil).

The EPA is operating four treatment and sedimentation ponds at the mine site which treating water by lowering acidity levels and removing dissolved metals. Treated water from the last treatment pond is discharging into Cement Creek (which leads to the Animas River) at levels cleaner (higher pH and lower levels of metals) than pre-event, background conditions in the creek.

For more information on what EPA is doing in response to the Gold King mining waste spill, please visit this site:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/roles-epa-and-other-responders-after-2015-gold-king-mine-release>

From: Bethel, Heidi
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 2:27 PM
To: Tingley, Kevin; Greene, Ashley
Cc: Nandi, Romell; Johnson, Tara; Conerly, Octavia; Klasen, Matthew; Orvin, Chris; Ruf, Christine; EOC Water; Penman, Crystal; Kopocis, Ken
Subject: RE: Need POC for Animas River Questions: FW: Animas River

Kevin,

Thanks! Please do work on a response to Nina. Is that EOC_Water@epa.gov? With an Underscore?

Heidi

From: Tingley, Kevin
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 1:52 PM
To: Bethel, Heidi; Greene, Ashley
Cc: Nandi, Romell; Johnson, Tara; Conerly, Octavia; Klasen, Matthew; Orvin, Chris; Ruf, Christine; EOC Water
Subject: Re: Need POC for Animas River Questions: FW: Animas River

Hi Heidi and SAs,

The best thing to do with water questions related to the Animas River response activities is to send them to the EOC Water Desk (EOC_Water@epa.gov or simply EOC Water if you are within Outlook). This way they can be tracked and follow up can be done regardless of who is working the desk.

Should I start working on a response to Nina Brown?

FYI I am here at the desk for the rest of this week, but someone else will be taking over if the EOC activation goes beyond Friday, which seems likely at this point.

Thanks,

Kevin Tingley

EPA HQ EOC Water Desk

202-250-8920

From: Bethel, Heidi
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 1:43 PM
To: Greene, Ashley
Cc: Tingley, Kevin; Nandi, Romell; Johnson, Tara; Conerly, Octavia; Klasen, Matthew; Orvin, Chris; Ruf, Christine
Subject: Need POC for Animas River Questions: FW: Animas River

Hi Ashley,

Ken received the e-mail below regarding the Animas River situation. He asked me to find a general point of contact where we can send questions. He also indicated that some questions are coming into his counterparts at Department of Commerce. He wants to be able to send Commerce a name as well. I know Kevin is going to be staffing the EOC, so I'm CCing him here, in case he has some information.

CCing the other SAs for awareness.

Thanks,

Heidi

(202) 566-2054

From: Bethel, Heidi **On Behalf Of** Kopocis, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 1:34 PM
To: Bethel, Heidi
Subject: FW: Animas River

From: Nina Brown [mailto:[nina.brown@epa.gov](#)] **Personal Email/Ex. 6**
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 12:49 PM
To: Kopocis, Ken

Subject: Animas River

Mr. Kopocis:

Twenty years ago the efficient, economical solution to toxin clean ups was proved in Texas. I would like to call an answer to the clean up of the Animas River to Gina McCarthy's attention as she observes the spill in Colorado and now New Mexico, my state.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGRp6q2ZoVg>

I would very much like to hear back if beneficial microbes are considered to be of no value by the EPA. So far no one has responded to my numerous emails to the EPA. Curious.

With Great Appreciation,

Nina

Nina Brown

www.ninabrown33.com